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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. 25X1A

TOPIC Koethen Airfield

25X1X EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1C

25X1C DATE OF CONTENT

25X1C DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 14 December 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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- 25X1X 1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Koethen airfield between 28 October and 10 November 1953:

25X1 28 October. During the noon hours, there was air activity by swept-back jet fighters, At about 12:30 p.m., a formation of seven MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s practiced flying in wedge formation.

31 October. Between 1:45 p.m. and 2:50 p.m., flying was practiced. The weather was sunny. Shortly after 2 p.m., five MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s landed in rapid succession. Three MiG-15s were observed at the field. 25X1

1 November. Between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m., no air activity was observed. There was good flying weather.

25X1 2 November. At about 6 p.m., preparations for night flying activity was started and searchlights were emplaced. At 6:10 p.m., five swept-back jet fighters landed at the field. Between 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., an aircraft was observed aloft. After same had landed, additional take-offs were made. A MiG-15 landed at the field at 6:05 p.m.

4 November. Between 12:15 p.m. and 1:20 p.m., no air activity was observed. The alert flight consisted of four MiG-15s, 25X1
An additional 11 swept-back jet fighters were parked at the field.

5 November. Between noon and 1:10 p.m., there was no air activity. Nine MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s were parked at the field. 25X1

6 November. At 12:15 p.m., no flights were made. The weather was hazy.

25X1 9 November. Between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., no air activity was conducted.
 a swept-back jet aircraft parked at the field.

25X1 10 November. At about 4:30 p.m., two MiG-15s crossed 25X1
over the field and subsequently landed. Shortly afterward, a MiG-15 25X1
 took off. (U)

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3. At about 10 a.m. on 3 November, 21 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were parked in front of the hangars and additional aircraft were observed near the take-off point.

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4. Between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., on 30 October, no air activity was observed at the field although there was good flying weather. Between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on 6 November, no flights were made and no swept-back jet aircraft were observed parked in the revetments. There was a closed ceiling at an altitude of 1,000 meters and a visibility range of about 2 kilometers. Between 7 and 20 November, only little air activity was observed. Between 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on 11 November, source observed that high-altitude flights were made.¹

5. On 6 and 20 November, six AA guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field.³ On 20 November, driver's training was given with eight trucks at the field. Since recently the airfield has been guarded more strictly than during the preceding months.

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6. Between 8:30 a.m. and 2:40 p.m. on 6 November, no air activity was observed at the field. No aircraft were identified at the field outside of the closed hangars.¹

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1. Comment. Koethen airfield is still occupied by a fighter regiment which is believed to be equipped with 30 to 35 MiG-15s.

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3. Comment. The AA gun emplacement was previously reported. The information on the number of AA guns emplaced there is correct.

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